

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
S. Imura)
Application No.:)
Filed: Herewith)
For: NON-WASHING RICE MANUFACTURE APPARATUS AND NON-WASHING RICE
MANUFACTURE METHOD

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail (No EL827616835US addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D C 20231 on August 24, 2001
By Michele Hollis
Michele Hollis

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fee and examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3-8 to read as follows:

3. (Amended). The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

said helical projecting rib formed on the peripheral surface of the agitation roll comprises a polished rice feed section, a rice washing section and a polished rice carrying-out section, the pitch of the helical projecting rib of said respective section is smaller in the feed section than that in the rice washing section, and larger in the carrying-out section than that in the rice washing section, and a drain section having a number of small holes is provided at points corresponding to said rice washing section and

carrying-out section on the peripheral surface of the agitation tube.

4. (Amended) The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

a draft is disposed upper than the rinse water discharge port of the screw tube peripheral wall, and a wind generating blade rotating integrally with the centrifugal dehydrating tube is disposed outside the centrifugal dehydrating tube peripheral wall.

5. (Amended) The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the draft is disposed upper than the rinse water discharge port of the screw tube peripheral wall, the surrounding of the centrifugal dehydrating tube is covered with a casing having a exhaust drain port, and a suction blower is communicated with the exhaust drain port.

6. (Amended) The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the rotation speed of the net of an evaporation means is made adjustable.

7. (Amended) The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

respective processing means are connected so that the polished rice inlet of a processing means of the following process side is positioned under the polished rice outlet of a processing means of the previous process side, thereby allowing the polished rice to pass sequentially respective processing means, without providing a transport means between respective processing means.

8. (Amended) The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of claim 1, comprising:

a driving control means for controlling the operation of

pressure rice washing means, rinsing dehydrating means, moisture adjustment means and rice washing intensity adjustment means, wherein the operation of said respective means is executed based on data concerning the polished rice input to the control means.

REMARKS:

This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 3-8 to remove the multiple claim dependencies. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a marked up version of the amended claims is submitted on separate pages attached hereto.

Entry of this Amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Barry R. Lipsitz
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 28,637
755 Main Street, Bldg. 8
Monroe, CT 06468
(203) 459-0200

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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: APL-129

Marked Up Version Showing Changes Made

3. The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of [any one of] claim 1 [or 2], wherein:

 said helical projecting rib formed on the peripheral surface of the agitation roll comprises a polished rice feed section, a rice washing section and a polished rice carrying-out section, the pitch of the helical projecting rib of said respective section is smaller in the feed section than that in the rice washing section, and larger in the carrying-out section than that in the rice washing section, and a drain section having a number of small holes is provided at points corresponding to said rice washing section and carrying-out section on the peripheral surface of the agitation tube.

4. The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein:

 a draft is disposed upper than the rinse water discharge port of the screw tube peripheral wall, and a wind generating blade rotating integrally with the centrifugal dehydrating tube is disposed outside the centrifugal dehydrating tube peripheral wall.

5. The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of [any one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein:

 the draft is disposed upper than the rinse water discharge port of the screw tube peripheral wall, the surrounding of the centrifugal dehydrating tube is covered with a casing having a exhaust drain port, and a suction blower is communicated with the exhaust drain port.

6. The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of [any of of claims 1 to 6]claim 1, wherein:

 the rotation speed of the net of an evaporation means is made adjustable.

7. The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of [any one of claims 1 to 6]claim 1, wherein:

respective processing means are connected so that the polished rice inlet of a processing means of the following process side is positioned under the polished rice outlet of a processing means of the previous process side, thereby allowing the polished rice to pass sequentially respective processing means, without providing a transport means between respective processing means.

8. The non-washing rice manufacture apparatus of [any one of claims 1 to 7]claim 1, comprising:

a driving control means for controlling the operation of pressure rice washing means, rinsing dehydrating means, moisture adjustment means and rice washing intensity adjustment means, wherein the operation of said respective means is executed based on data concerning the polished rice input to the control means.